

MINUTES OF THE 101 MEETING OF THE
QUEBEC ASBESTOS MINING ASSOCIATION
HELD ON MONDAY, APRIL 10th, 1967,
AT THE CHATEAU FRONTENAC, QUEBEC CITY, QUE.

Present:

Messrs. W.W. Doughtred	F. Bolduc	L. Pluze
K.V. Lindell	I.C. Campbell	D. Poirier
J.A. Main	R. Dodds-Hebron	M. Prus
R.J. Merrill	W.M. Foster	D.H. Riorden
P.A. Meyer	J.R.M. Hutcheson	G. Robinson
F.P. Smith	A.L. Denbale	I. Schourie
		P.A. Filteau

Mr. Doughtred chaired the meeting. Minutes of the meeting held on February the 2nd, 1967 at the Barbados Hilton, N.I. were adopted as submitted by the Secretary and General Manager.

Technical Committee

A meeting of the Committee was held on April the 4th, and the Chairman of the Committee reported on the work in progress, as follows:

- a) **Oil Absorption Sub-Committee** - A second Round Robin test has been undertaken but not completed due to delay in delivery of SC-70 vehicle. Results within 5% deviations are expected.
- b) **Fibre Strength Unit Sub-Committee** - It is recommended that a new Round Robin be conducted to evaluate the improvements obtained in uniformity of procedure and equip-

ment, this work to be carried out under the auspices of the Technical Committee and with the agreement of the Uniform Classification and Grading Committee.

- c) A.S.T.M. Committee, D-35 - Tentative procedures have been circulated covering the combined air permeability method and the ro-tap test. A procedure for the T & N Vertical Wet Classifier has also been prepared in A.S.T.M. format.
- d) A.S.T.M. Committee, D-13 Sub-Committee A-4, Magnetic Rating - A Sourd Robin is planned to evaluate the T & N Magnetic Rating Analyser and the Wronski Magnetic Balance apparatus. U.A.M.A. members and other interested parties will be invited to participate.
- e) Unitized Shipments - The sub-committee has held 2 meetings recently at which time a review was made of packaging experiments carried out by some of the companies. It was mentioned that Jacques Jones-Manville was experimenting with a twenty-ton container. Sailing of fibre is also being tried out; factories suggest one-hundred-ton units. It is to be pointed out, however, that laminated bags will still be necessary for factory handling.
- f) Mines Branch, Ottawa - Mr. Ginner of Ottawa attended the last meeting of the Committee and reported on the Research work presently being carried out by the Mines Branch.

Uniform Classification and Grading Committee

In his review the Chairman pointed out that a new report form had been developed by the Director of the Sherbrooke

Lab. to include P.V. Classification, if adopted. The fibre inspector has started his 1967 fibre selection so as to allow sufficient time to carry out a P.V. selection, if such is accepted.

The Sherbrooke Lab. storage room has been converted to cold temperature, because discrepancies have been noticed in testing. The Lab. Director was not permitted to attend the Conference in Cambridge, following his request to do so.

Industrial Relations

Mr. J.R.M. Hutchison reported on behalf of the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. J.D. Eby, who was unable at the last minute to attend the meeting. The latter had intended to bring to the attention of the meeting that, following notification received from the Workmen's Compensation Board that the Merit Rating Rates of our Group had been changed, the committee planned to visit with officials of the Commission as soon as possible.

It was agreed, in line with recommendation of the Chairman that the Dust Control Engineer, Mr. Lechance would attend the American Industrial Hygiene Conference in Chicago. Expected travel expense \$400.00.

The General Manager tabled a letter to the Honorable Maurice Bellemare, Minister of Labour, with respect to the proposed establishment of a Provincial Accident Prevention Board, thus repealing articles 110 and 111 of the present act. The recommendation is that the prevention of accidents in mines and quarries should remain under the jurisdiction of the Department of Natural Resources.

Other recently proposed amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act were also stressed, specifically that concerning article 108, which would deem compensable pneumoconioses complicated with or associated with other industrial diseases resulting in a physical incapacity or death, even after an elapsed time of 5 years after leaving employment or exposure to dust breathing. It was proposed that counsel and the General Manager meet with the minister and the Commissioners of the Workmen's Compensation Board to discuss this new interpretation and recommend certain limitations.

Traffic

The Chairman was pleased to report that:

- a) Negotiations with the Railroads concerning the measure of increase to be applied to the Agreed Charge for shipments to St. Lawrence ports for the year beginning April 1, 1947, have been concluded on the basis of an across-the-board increase of \$0.01 per 100 lbs. as opposed to the 10% increase demanded by the Railroads.
- b) The Association's application to the Canadian Railroads for the establishment of 120,000 lbs. rates to Official Territory in the United States, have been initially turned down on the basis that the Railroads could not supply sufficient 50-foot cars for such movement. Inasmuch as it is our actual practice to load 120,000 lbs. (excl. spinning fibre) in 40-foot cars, we intend to reopen the question.

- c) The ocean freight rates to India, Pakistan, Ceylon, etc. are being increased by \$1.50 per ton, or approximately 5%, effective June 1st. Heretofore there had been no increase in this trade since 1965.
- d) The situation with respect to off-loading asbestos at the docks in London was still somewhat precarious.

Public Relations

According to the chairman, the brochure for distribution at Expo has been corrected and is going to press this week. The new edition of the Asbestos P.R. booklet has been re-written, re-edited and will be going to press shortly. It was suggested, however, that the new version should be circulated to all Members for final approval before distribution. The piece of ore for the fountain at the Asbestos Plaza at Expo in Montreal, has been delivered and will be installed this week.

Legislation and Taxation

- a) The Chairman reported on the Carter Commission, and it was agreed that any representations made by the Association to the Federal Government on this subject should best be carried out through the auspices of the Mining Association of Canada.
- b) The Quebec provincial sales tax has been increased from 6 to 8% and regulations have been issued whereby the amount of power consumed by industry for non-productive purposes heretofore taxed on the basis of actual

consumption for such non-productive purposes, will now be taxed at a minimum of 10%, and intra-provincial freight charges which are not taxable will, however, be taxable in the event that they are invoiced concurrently by the supplier with the goods.

- c) The special federal refundable corporation tax of 5% has been rescinded effective 31st March 1967, and at the same time the temporary reduction in certain capital cost allowance on property acquired after March 29, 1966, has also been rescinded.
- d) There has been a further delay by the Quebec Metal Mining Association in making joint representations with us to the Provincial Government on the Belanger Commission and the Quebec Mining Act, which has been brought about by disagreement on the part of the latter. Mr. Filteau reported that QEMA is agreeable to make a joint submission at some mutually convenient date in the month of May.

Occupational and Environmental Health Committee

Proposed by-laws prepared by Counsel have been distributed to the members of the Executive Committee for their perusal.

The Chairman explained that he was trying to obtain a research assistance program from the Scientific Committee, specifically a review and a detailed list of the immediate work to be done to answer accusations from certain quarters, if funds were available. Following Dr. Palmer's report on his recent trip to Europe such a program is expected to be submitted by the end of the month of April.

Antigua Conference - It is proposed that a second Conference be held under the auspices of our Association. Only top scientists are to be invited to express their thoughts on the asbestosis incidence and its biological effects. An agenda and a special program are being prepared by the Executive Committee. Estimated cost - \$50,000. Motion seconded and adopted.

Certain members indicated that customers were asking about asbestos dust as a health hazard. Where any company wish to reply, it should be merely stated that like for any dust, care must be taken in handling asbestos. All scientific data should be left out, because still debatable.

It was moved and seconded that a note of sympathy should be addressed to the family of Dr. Vidal upon his recent death, April 5th.

Dust Abatement Committee

A meeting of the Committee was held on March 17. In this connection, the Chairman wishes to report that the position of his committee calls for a free interchange of information between member companies. The Committee plans to investigate into the following dust abatement possibilities:

- a) Dryer Stack Control.
- b) Electrostatic precipitation.
- c) Sprinkling and covering of tailings piles to prevent blowing of dust.

"Ad Hoc" Committee on "Method of Reporting Number of Employees"

Nothing to report at this time.

Expo'67

The rock sculpture has been moved to the site and necessary piping is presently being installed for the proper operation of the fountain. Asbestos cement planters and seats to be put in place in time for official opening of Expo.

General

Soviet Visit - The U.S.S.R. has agreed to the visit of a Canadian Mining delegation but, would allow the delegates to see only one asbestos mining operation. Should the delegates of the Asbestos Industry be sponsored or not by Q.A.M.A.? This does not meet with the consensus of the directors and accordingly it is proposed and seconded that formal sponsorship be given by Q.A.M.A. but without any cost to the Association.

ADOPTED.

Car Mileage - In reply to a question by the Treasurer, it was agreed that car mileage travelled by Association employees should be reimbursed at a rate of ten cents per mile.

Montreal Office - It was pointed out that the Secretary in the Montreal Office had been required to work overtime hours on many an occasion. Moreover, the effects of increased cost of living, brought about by Expo, are felt in more than

one way. It was agreed that overtime should be avoided, but that, if necessary, it should be remunerated at the rate of time and a half. Additional help is foreseeable for the not too distant future.

Special Guests at coming meetings - It was agreed that Mr. V.C. Hensbrough, Vice-President and Executive Manager of the Mining Association of Canada be invited to the Special Summer Meeting at the Manoir Richelieu.

An invitation should be forwarded to honorable Elliot Bellavance and his wife, Mr. Scott Gilmour for luncheon following the next regular meeting of the Association on May 29, 1967.

It is understood that Mr. J. Christian of Cassiar Asbestos Corporation receives a standing invitation to all meetings of the Association.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was formally terminated.